



Murray State students take their education to the next level

Murray State University's Jasmine Young, a counseling graduate student, has developed a mentoring program serving at-risk African American youth in the Murray School District.

The We Are B.R.A.V.E. (Black, Respectful, Achieving, Victorious and Empowered) program's mission is to empower and strengthen African American youth by developing positive academic standards while exploring career and personal goals. It is a program designed to challenge students in grades K-3 to be strong and victorious in all that they do.

The mentoring program, with a strong focus on African American students, collaborates with Murray State University students who commit to supporting, guiding and being a friend to a young person for at least a one-year period.

There are three specific goals and objectives of the B.R.A.V.E. program: assist students in having a supportive relationship with the mentor; improve the participants' academic performance; and improve the students' skills in interpersonal relationships. This will serve as an early intervention to assist young African American students in the local school district ages 5 to 12 years old.

Currently, there have been 16 mentors recruited, trained and matched with students at Murray Elementary School. The majority of these students are in grades two and three in preparation for them to enter junior high school, but the program sees hope to be expanded to junior high and high school in future years.



Murray State University Receives Accolades



Murray State University (MSU) has once again been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges* as one of the top schools in the country. The 2016 rankings list Murray State in ninth place among the top public regional universities in the South and marks the university's 25th consecutive year of top tier rankings by the college guide. Murray State continues to be the top-ranked public regional university in Kentucky in the Regional Universities-South category, which contains both private and public schools.



Murray State University has again been recognized as giving students more bang for their buck. For the second consecutive year, *Washington Monthly's* "The Other College Guide: A Road Map to the Right School for You" has Murray State highlighted as a best value for students seeking a college degree. MSU was the top ranked public university in Kentucky in the Southern Schools category of "Best Bang for the Buck."

Nursing program at Murray State sees increased graduation of men

Murray State University's School of Nursing and Health Professions has 34 nursing students graduating in December. Eleven of these students are men, making up 33 percent of the class.

"A career in nursing gives me job stability, various opportunities and a wide range of places to work. I don't have to worry about a limited market because nurses are needed everywhere. I also know that I can follow my future spouse almost anywhere and not have to worry about finding a job," said Matt Griffith, senior nursing student.



Murray State hosts Come Together Kentucky Conference

This October, Murray State hosted the 20th "Come Together

Kentucky" conference targeted toward LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) college students, high school students, community members and the ally community. The event drew more than 160 participants from across the state.

Murray State alumnus Jim Carter, '79 and '86, honored with memorial dedication

During the excitement of this year's Homecoming festivities, the Racer community celebrated the life of one of its dearest members, the late Jim Carter. Carter, the former vice president of institutional advancement at Murray State and executive director of the MSU Alumni Association, was honored at the dedication of the Carter Alumni Plaza.



The Murray State women's soccer team has won its first Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) regular season title since 2008. The title is the second regular season championship for Murray State and the third title overall. In just his second year as head coach, Jeremy Groves has led his team to become the first-ever 10-0 Champion in the OVC with the most consecutive wins in program history.



Music education alumna "pays it forward"

A generous gift from Janet Gascoigne Voyles, 1977 graduate (B.M.E.) of Murray State University (MSU), to establish a scholarship endowment has a unique twist. Recently, Voyles received a gift of a clarinet from her former faculty instructor at MSU Don Story. Voyles repaid Story's generosity by donating \$25,000 in funds for a scholarship endowment at MSU.



Title IX and campus safety education continues

Janet Judge, a nationally known authority on Title IX, presented "Just the Facts: Title IX and Sexual Misconduct" at the university in two separate sessions — one for MSU faculty and staff, and one for MSU students. Judge is president of Sports Law Associates LLC where she concentrates her practice on intercollegiate sports and employment law counseling.

Murray State celebrates 60 years of integration

For Murray State University, 2015 is an exciting year of ongoing celebration, marking the 60th anniversary of integration on campus. During the summer of 1955, Mary Ford Holland enrolled at Murray State College, and soon other trailblazing black students followed her, including Vador Perry Warfield, Harvey Langford, Illah Perry Grant and Nancy Tyler Demartra.

